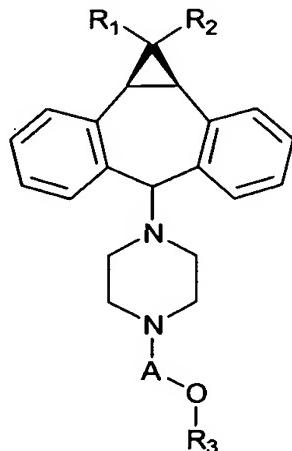


IN THE CLAIMS:

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c), please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method for increasing the concentration of an HIV protease inhibitor in the brain of a patient, said method comprising administering to an HIV infected patient ~~an amount of~~ a 10,11-methanodibenzosuberane of formula (I):



(I)

wherein: A is -CH₂CH₂-; -CH₂CHR^aCH₂- where R^a is H, OH or lower acyloxy; or -CH₂CHR^bCHR^cCH₂- where one of R^b or R^c is H, OH, or lower acyloxy, and the other is H;

R¹ is H, F, Cl, or Br;

R² is H, F, Cl, or Br; and

R³ is heteroaryl or phenyl optionally substituted with F, Cl, Br, CF₃, CN, NO₂, or OCHF₂; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in an amount effective to increase the concentration of the HIV protease inhibitor in the brain of the patient; and

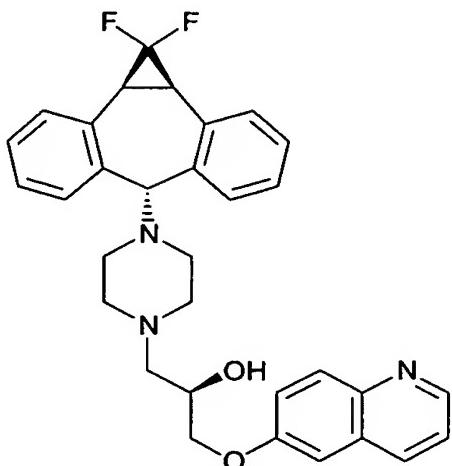
co-administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of the HIV protease inhibitor.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the patient is a male and the 10,11-methanodibenzosuberane of formula (I) is administered in an amount effective to increase the concentration of the HIV protease inhibitor is also increased in the patient's testes.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the HIV protease inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of nelfinavir, indinavir, saquinavir, ritonavir, and amprenavir.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 3 wherein the HIV protease inhibitor is nelfinavir.

5. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein R¹ and R² are F, A is -CH₂CHR^aCH₂-, and R³ is optionally substituted quinolyl.
6. (original) The method of claim 5 wherein R^a is OH and R³ is quinol-5-yl.
7. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the methanodibenzosuberane of formula (I) is a compound of formula (II):

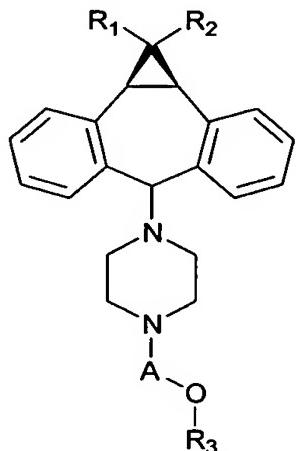


(II).

8. (currently amended) A method of treating a patient having an HIV-1 infection comprising:

administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of an HIV protease inhibitor, and

co-administering to the patient ~~an amount of~~ a compound represented by formula (I):



(I)

wherein: A is -CH₂CH₂-; -CH₂CHR^aCH₂- where R^a is H, OH or lower acyloxy; or -CH₂CHR^bCHR^cCH₂- where one of R^b or R^c is H, OH, or lower acyloxy, and the other is H;

R¹ is H, F, Cl, or Br;

R² is H, F, Cl, or Br; and

R³ is heteroaryl or phenyl optionally substituted with F, Cl, Br, CF₃, CN, NO₂, or OCHF₂; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

in an amount sufficient-effective to increase brain levels of the HIV protease inhibitor in the patient.

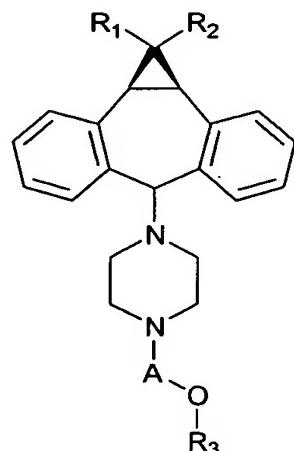
9. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein R¹ and R² are F, A is -CH₂CHR^aCH₂-, and R³ is optionally substituted quinolyl.

10. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein R^a is OH and R³ is quinol-5-yl.

11. (previously presented) The method of claim 8 wherein the amount of the compound of formula (I) is sufficient to increase the brain levels of the HIV protease inhibitor without significantly increasing the concentration of the HIV protease inhibitor in the patient's blood.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the patient is a male, and the amount of the compound is also sufficient to increase the concentration concentrations of the HIV protease inhibitor in the patient's testes.

13. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an antiviral protease inhibitor; a 10,11-methanodibenzosuberane of formula (I):



(I)

wherein: A is -CH₂CH₂-; -CH₂CHR^aCH₂- where R^a is H, OH or lower acyloxy; or -CH₂CHR^bCHR^cCH₂- where one of R^b or R^c is H, OH, or lower acyloxy, and the other is H;

R¹ is H, F, Cl, or Br;

R² is H, F, Cl, or Br; and

R³ is heteroaryl or phenyl optionally substituted with F, Cl, Br, CF₃, CN, NO₂, or OCHF₂; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.

14. (currently amended) The composition of claim 13 wherein the methanodibenzosuberane of formula (I) is present in an amount effective to increase brain levels of the protease inhibitor in a patient.

15. (currently amended) The composition of claim 14 wherein the methanodibenzosuberane of formula (I) is present in an amount effective to increase brain levels of the protease inhibitor without significantly increasing plasma levels of the protease inhibitor in the patient.

16. (currently amended) The composition of claim 13 wherein the protease inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of nelfinavir, indinavir, saquinavir, ritonavir, or-and amprenavir.

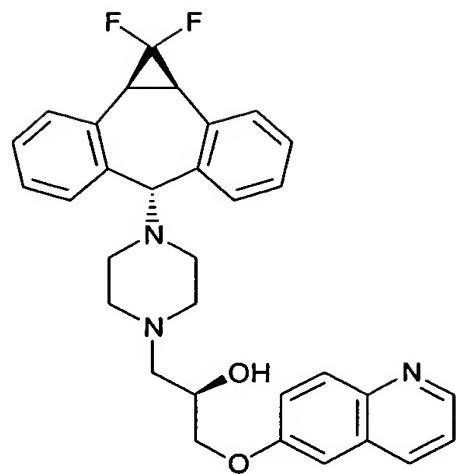
17. (original) The composition of claim 16 wherein the protease inhibitor is nelfinavir.

18. (original) The composition of claim 13 wherein R¹ and R² are F.

19. (original) The composition of claim 13 wherein A is -CH₂CHR^aCH₂-.

20. (currently amended) The composition of claim 13 wherein R3 is a R³ is an optionally substituted quinolyl.

21. (currently amended) The composition of claim 13 wherein the 10,11-methanodibenzosuberane is the-a compound of formula (II):



(II).

22. (original) The composition of claim 13 wherein the methanodibenzosuberane comprises about 0.005 to 95% of the composition.

23-36. (cancelled)

37. (previously presented) The composition of claim 13 wherein the antiviral protease inhibitor is an HIV protease inhibitor.